

## Faster plant growth in a safe, economical way

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## Good science and good business: synthesizing plant metabolite creates an economical growth treatment

Biagro Western Sales, Inc., was founded in March 1993 by two agriculturists who have a rich history in California agriculture and agricultural research and development. Biagro is a research- and technology-driven company that believes good science and good business go hand in hand.

In 2003, after seeing the results of laboratory and greenhouse studies conducted by Los Alamos National Laboratory, Biagro exclusively licensed a synthesized version of a natural plant metabolite that, when applied to plants, speeds crop emergence, increases growth rates and yields, improves stress tolerance and nutrient value, and reduces need for nitrogen fertilizers by increasing nitrogen uptake efficiency.

Biagro spent four years doing field research in Europe and the United States before releasing Take-Off<sup>TM</sup>. Take-Off<sup>TM</sup> can be applied as a spray to a plant's leaves, using traditional sprayer equipment, or to the plant's root system. Take-Off ST<sup>TM</sup> is a long-lasting and economical seed treatment. Take-Off<sup>TM</sup> has also been blended with Biagro's phosphite fertilizer products.

Primarily for cereals, oil crops, sugar crops, cotton, and forage crops, Take-Off<sup>™</sup> was launched in 2007 in Europe for use on wheat. By 2010, the product was being used on 500,000 acres of wheat in Europe. Take-Off<sup>™</sup> was launched in North America in later 2010, and Biagro is working to enter markets in other parts of the world.

"Take-Off<sup>™</sup> has a very low use rate, which makes it extremely economical. That is something that speaks to growers worldwide amid this economic climate," said Nigel Grech, Director of Research and Development for Biagro Western.

**Los Alamos National Laboratory** 

www.lanl.gov

(505) 667-7000

Los Alamos, NM

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